

## BLONDIE



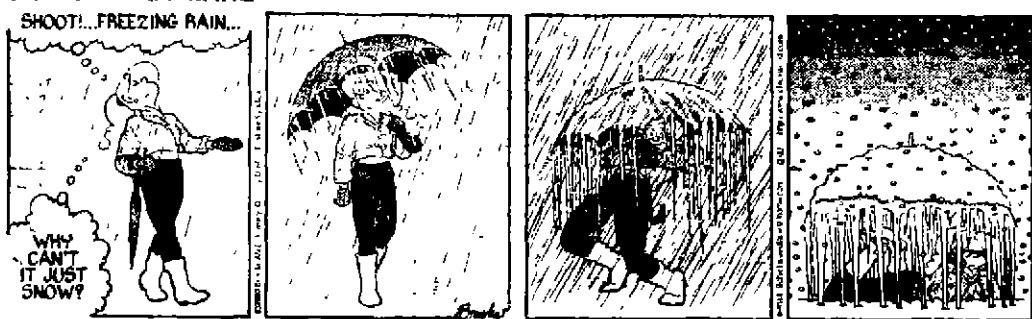
## SALLY FORTH



## THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



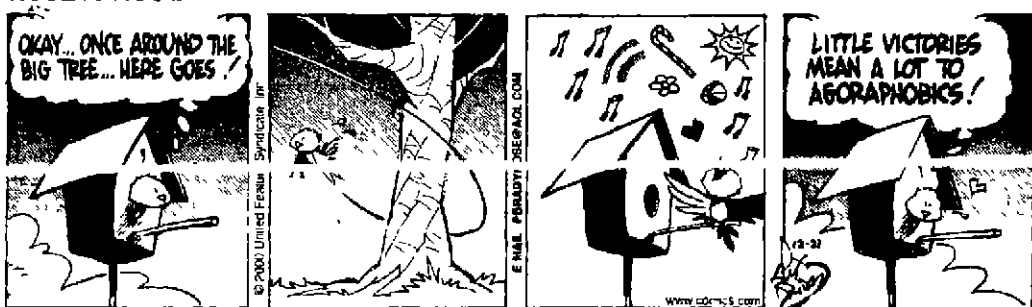
## 9 CHICKWEED LANE



## JUMP START



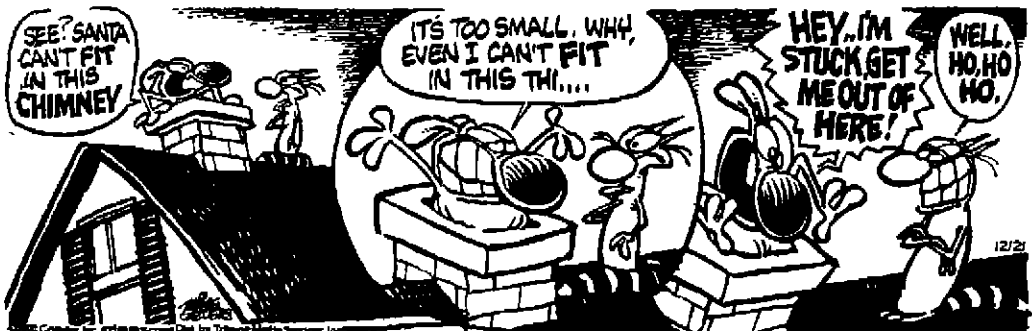
## ROSE IS ROSE



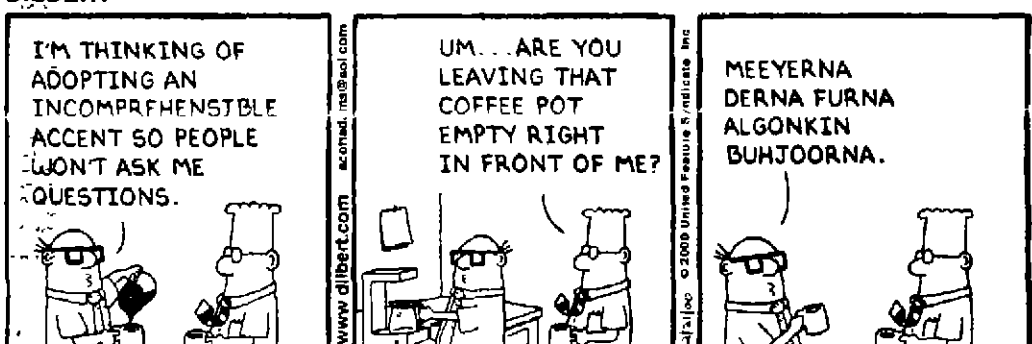
## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



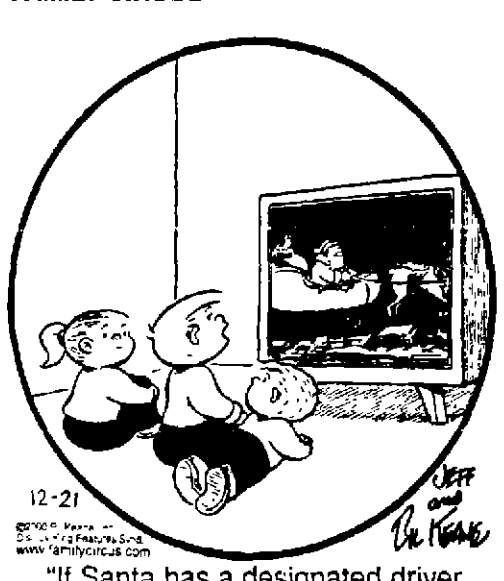
## DILBERT



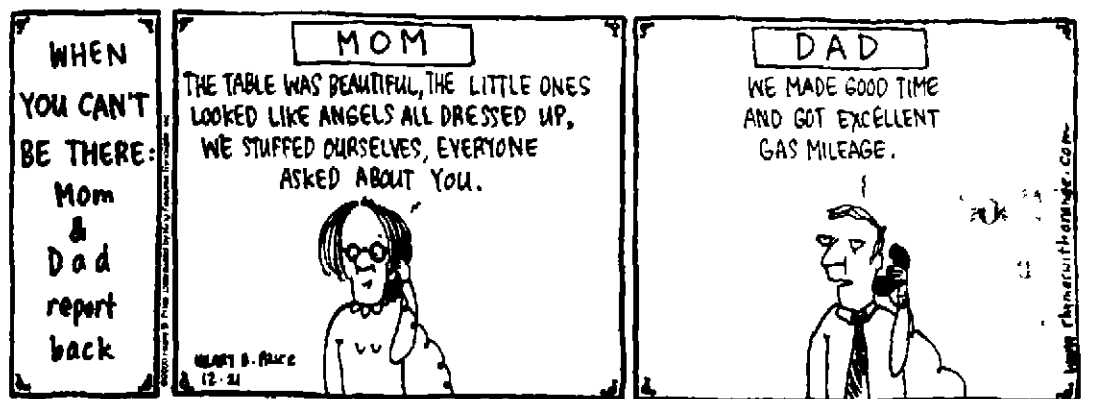
## DENNIS THE MENACE



## FAMILY CIRCUS



## RHYMES WITH ORANGE



## HOROSCOPE

For Friday, Dec. 22, 2000

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Whatever you do, don't complain to an authority figure.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Don't allow a flash of jealousy to do irreparable damage.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Plan for the outcome that you truly desire, and you can't go astray.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Keep your head down, and keep on moving.

**LEO** (July 23 to Aug. 22) When it comes to an intimate relationship, the best thing you can do is to take matters one step at a time.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Having fun with someone you love is the ideal tonic for your discouraged soul.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A lack of energy and enthusiasm plagues everything you do.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Although you would rather keep something private, you are obligated to share.

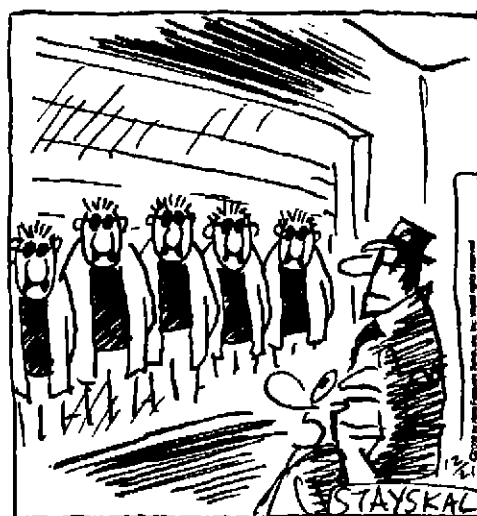
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't let minor obstacles interfere with the pursuit of your dreams.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Someone desperately needs your help but is too shy to ask.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Don't turn your nose up at an offer that was made in all sincerity.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 to March 20) Finally, you are well-positioned to let events take their own course. Your best and easiest words come straight from the heart.

## RALPH



## WORD SLEUTH

## OLYMPIC GOLD IN SOCCER

L H E C Z X U S Q N L J G E C  
Z X V R A T R P N L J H M E C  
A Y W V S I T R P N L U K I G  
N E D E W S V E C B I Z X D Y  
W U U R U G U A Y G S R N N N  
A C Z E C H O S L O V A K I A  
P D F R A N C E O S L M G A M  
Y L A T I L B J I G O E G P R  
E D B N P O L A N D R G A S E  
Y X K R A M N E D I W U U T G  
S Q P O N C Y R A G N U H Y E

Wednesday's unused clue: WOOL

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Thursday's unused clue hint: SHAPED LIKE A BOOT

|                |            |         |            |
|----------------|------------|---------|------------|
| Belgium        | E. Germany | Nigeria | Uruguay    |
| Canada         | England    | Poland  | USSR       |
| Czechoslovakia | France     | Spain   | Yugoslavia |
| Denmark        | Hungary    | Sweden  |            |

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12/21

For solution, see Classified.

## N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1109

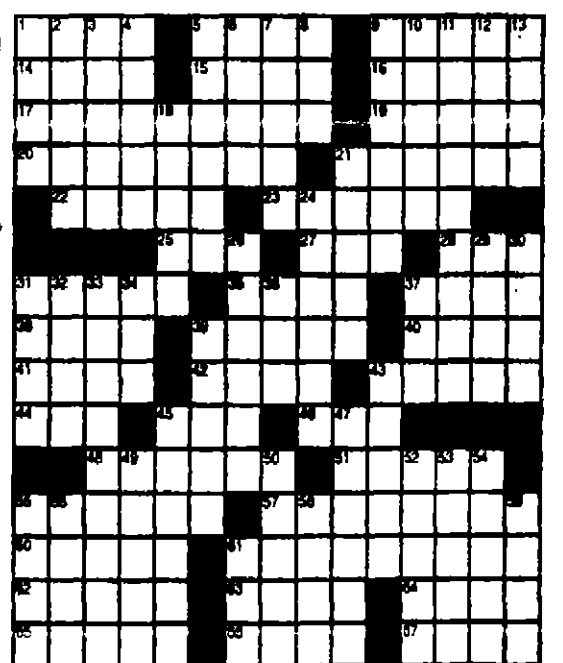
- ACROSS**
- Shrewd
  - "Dear" lady
  - Master, in Mysore
  - Fever fit
  - Play thing?
  - Dialogue writer
  - Galileo's pool sticks?
  - Devoted
  - Asks urgently
  - Begin to burn
  - Hopeless case
  - Take up the slack
  - Spanish company?
  - Diner's dog.
  - Where shootings occur
  - "Not a chance!"
  - Flap
  - Tailor's concern
  - Arnold Schoenberg's "Moses and..."
  - Bridge support
  - Related
  - Darned
  - Rooter precursor
  - Dumas adventurer
  - Over there
  - Abbr. in a math textbook
  - Draft org.
  - Took a breather
  - More than willing
  - "Phantom Lady" star, 1944
  - Takes over for
  - Rocket stage
  - Shakespearean character ended in a deadlock?
  - Spiked clubs
  - Brit attachment
  - Alsatian island
  - College honcho
  - In a lazy way
  - Something to do

## DOWN

- Abtre for the Headless Horseman
- Geniatrcian's study
- Relish
- Have a hankering
- Jockey who won the Triple Crown twice
- Attack
- Gave a benediction
- Referendum choice
- Gymnastic feats
- Without help
- Indian present at the "Crescent"
- It doesn't stand up straight. Abbr.
- Tree trunk
- Down and out
- Acclaim
- Makes the house bigger
- Took giant steps
- Mary's "South Pacific" co-star

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

SEWS BACK ENJOY  
FLAT UPON NOONE  
ELLE SART TWEEN  
CALFSTRETCH YRS  
PLAYS BULO  
PACTING ASSAULTS  
AAM BUZZO EDESL  
URIS THEUP SHOO  
LOCAL PAIRDS ONT  
ANKLEUS OOMPAR  
FEAR PASTA  
VAL GUDAEPORTVEN  
EDITH LINE ARTY  
RICHE EMIR CITY  
DAKED WOES AXES



Puzzle by Richard Stevenson

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 48 Wing                   | 56 Seaweed substance     |
| 50 Cut's partner          | 58 Oscar winner Jennings |
| 52 Suggest                | 59 Mmm. neighbor         |
| 53 Rice/Lloyd Webber work | 61 Sect leader?          |
| 54 Is a real stinker      |                          |
| 55 Turnpike turnoff       |                          |
- Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.